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AGRICULTURE.

(For the New England Farmer.)

TOPPING CORN.

Mr Fessenden:—Notwithstanding the correct theories advanced by yourself and others, and the numerous experiments, proving conclusively that the practice of "topping Indian Corn" (Maize) is injurious, yet it is believed that this practice is still continued generally, although discontinued by a large portion of the best farmers in New England. The practice, if injurious, would, in a short period, cause a loss of property, in the aggregate, amounting perhaps to millions. That the corn plant should ever have been selected for mutilation, in preference to other vegetables, seems to be an extraordinary circumstance. In the whole circle of American husbandry, there is no plant of higher utility and value, or which excites greater curiosity and admiration in respect to its beautiful appearance and organic structure. The physiologist cannot explain how the grass grows, or how this plant springs from a decaying seed into being, and performs all its functions: yet science reveals to us certain facts, as well as the modes in which some of its functions are performed. We know that the Author of nature does nothing in vain, either in the animal or vegetable kingdoms; and that He gave to this plant such peculiar constitution and anatomy, that each part or organ is absolutely necessary to bring it to maturity, or complete its perfection.

The abstraction of any part of it is, therefore, opposed to the wise provisions of nature; and, for obvious reasons, checks its growth. It receives a portion of its food and nourishment from the soil, through the medium of the roots, and their sprays, or minute fibres, extending several feet from the stalk or stem, which act as absorbents. But the vegetable fluid, received from the roots and propelled upwards, undergoes several chemical actions before it enters the cob, and before it is finally converted into that peculiar food which the green ear requires. Air is as essential to its growth as heat, and supplies a portion of its nourishment. Indeed, some plants derive their whole nourishment from the air. The wide corn blades, like the leaves of trees, decompose carbonic acid, retaining the carbon, and emitting the oxygen. The blades are, therefore, in some measure, respiratory, and have some slight analogy to the lungs of animals, which retain only that part of the air called oxygen (the vital part), to improve the state of the blood and give it its red color. We may, therefore, safely conclude that the corn-blade is the organ to prepare or elaborate the sap propelled into it from the stem; that from the blade it returns to the pith or pulpy substance of the stalk; that it next enters the cob, after having undergone several stages of improvement; and that before it is finally received into the kernel, it has been "refined and doubly refined," until it constitutes that rich saccharine juice, which is the nutriment of, and gives the sweet flavor to the kernel. We thus perceive the use of the blades, as well as the pith, the latter extending through the whole stalk. This vegetable fluid circulates through the whole length of the stalk, as well as the blades.

Whether the sap, after it ascends from the roots into the blades in which it is elaborated, descends to the roots, according to the doctrine which some distinguished phytologists hold in respect to trees and perennial plants, we confess we have strong doubts. But that there is some sort of circulation, must be conceded. It is probable that the juice, after it ascends, may descend into certain bulbous roots as their tops dry and decay.

Although unable, by actual experiment, to confute the theory, we can conceive of no reason whatever why the sap should descend into the roots of annual or perennial plants. "The circulation of the sap," says a learned writer, "is one of the most obscure, though important processes, in the whole vegetable economy." But the fact that it circulates, or flows, or moves through every part of the corn-plant, improving its state, until the final deposit of its richest substance in the kernel, is sufficient to support our main position. If our premises are correct, the conclusion irresistibly follows, that cutting off half the stalk with nearly all the blades, while the plant is green and growing, before the ear comes to maturity, must necessarily check its growth. Because a large portion of the organs, essential to complete its perfection, are abstracted. It is disorganized in respect to its natural functions. One source, whence it derives nourishment, is cut off. The sap from the roots can no longer be elaborated by the blades, and afterwards converted into a richer and sweeter substance. The ear consequently shrinks, the kernel shrivels as it dries; and the result is, as has often been demonstrated by accurate experiments, that by means of the mutilating process, the corn turns out to be not so sweet and palatable for food, less in quantity, and in weight less than there would have been, had nature been permitted, in her own way, to bring it to maturity. Farmers often commence topping the corn so soon as the kernel is glazed over, "begins to turn," while it is "in the milk." This is the period when the ear is in the greatest need of the saccharine juice, when all the parts or organs of the living whole, through which action is evolved, and which reciprocally act and re-act, are developing their energies to produce the desired result, the maturity of the ear. And the several parts or organs of the plant are reciprocally dependent upon each other for the exercise of their respective functions.

Without the top and the farina, which falls from it, the corn would never grow upon the cob. A silky thread grows out of each kernel, and at the precise time when these threads project beyond the husks, when "the corn is in the silk," the farina falls from the top on to the silk, and through the medium of these threads impregnates each kernel. A microscope will disclose a small aperture at the ends of the silk. In this manner, it is well known, that two fields of corn of different kinds, standing at a considerable distance from each other, will intermix when the wind conveys the farina from one field to the other.

The tops and the wide spreading blades have other uses. They serve as a covering to protect the ear and stem from too intense heat of a burning sun on the one hand, and cold winds on the other. They also derive nourishment from gentle rains and dews; and their umbrageous foliage, by being a partial obstruction to evaporation, tends to prevent the soil from parching or drying up. A medium temperature is thus, in some measure, preserved. The genial influence of the solar light upon the plants (without which they would not grow), is a fact known to all, but is not of easy explication. This covering affords also a partial protection against the early frosts, to which our Northern climate is subjected. One instance of this I will mention. The last spring I planted about four acres of corn upon a low, argillaceous soil, *late in the season*. The piece was well manured, but no manure put in the hill. For a long time the plants appeared less promising than those of my neighbors, who put manure in the hill. But when the roots reached the under-sward, and the nutriment equally diffused, the growth of this piece was remarkably rapid. The plants being thick set, and of uncommon height, the tops and blades covered nearly the whole surface. The prospect appeared favorable to a yield of 75 bushels to the acre. While other farmers had topped their corn (a practice which I have not adopted), mine was in vigorous growth, only a small portion being out of danger from frost. In that state, two successive frosts struck it so severely as to kill the tops and blades. But the ears remained green, and to appearance untouched by frost, and the husks did not adhere to the ear as they do when severely frost bitten. My opinion is, that the *frost* did no greater injury than the *knife* would have done, had the piece been topped at that time; and also that had I topped it previous to the frost, the effects of the frost would have rendered it valueless, except for fodder.

Some farmers top their corn in order to force it to ripen earlier. They remove the covering to let the rays of the sun have greater effect upon the ears. And some believe, that by this process they can turn the whole current of the juice into the ear! In respect to the last point, our preceding remarks afford a sufficient answer. Experimental knowledge will convince any one, that the corn will ripen earlier in nature's way, than by adopting the mutilating process. The truth is, that we may safely follow nature, but to change her course and improve her laws, is beyond the power and capacity of man. The great Author of nature created every plant in the vegetable kingdom, *perfect in its own kind*. It is, therefore, the height of arrogance and folly to attempt to improve upon what is already perfect. While by

the mutilating process, we increase the quantity of solar light shed upon the ear, we at the same time diminish the quantity of heat, the latter being perhaps more necessary to the plant's growth, than mere light. In autumn, at the usual time of topping corn, more light falls upon an isolated tree in the open field, than upon any one tree in a thick grove, or forest. Yet it is true, that the latter tree has more heat than the former. So in a compact, well-shaded corn-field, the heat is retained, if not generated, more than it would be by cutting away the umbrageous foliage to let in solar light, thus exposing the denuded stalk to the full force of the cold, searching winds of that season. In the spring season, when the plants are small and tender, there is an abundance of light, but such is the low temperature, and their exposure to the winds, that as a natural consequence they often appear feeble and sickly, and slowly increase in size.

We know of no tree or other plant, whose condition would be improved by cutting off its top, or main branches. Should a tree be entirely stripped of its foliage in midsummer, it would surely decay and probably die. If it bore fruit not fully ripe, the fruit would shrink, and never become palatable. Should the main branches be cut off, its growth would be so stinted, that it would not recover until after several years, if at all. In transplanting trees, young, or of many years' growth,* modern experiments have proved, that mutilating the tops and the roots, at the same time, is very destructive to the tree; because the branches through which the sap circulates, are organs just as essential as the roots, to the nourishment of the tree.

Another justification assigned for the practice of topping corn, is to gain a greater supply of fodder for cattle. But the fact is, that the farmer, by cutting up his corn at the roots when it has come to maturity, will have a greater quantity of fodder, than he would in the other mode, and he thereby saves much labor. It is admitted, that the stalks cut green, containing more of the saccharine juice, afford sweeter fodder. But if the main object be to raise good corn, that juice should go to nourish the ear.

We could extend our remarks, and adduce other arguments to fortify our main position. But should you deem these cursory remarks worthy of publication, for the purpose of eliciting public inquiry, or engaging the attention of writers more competent than myself to establish the truth of the theory, and to put an end to one of the most unwise and injudicious practices ever adopted in an enlightened community, I shall not regret this humble effort to promote the agricultural interest.

WILLIAM CLAGGETT.

Portsmouth, N. H., Feb. 6, 1836.

*In England, transplanting full grown trees of all kinds is reduced to a science, and conducted upon systematic principles. By this process, the parks and pleasure grounds of the wealthy are suddenly ornamented with extensive groves.

(From the Baltimore Farmer.)

BOILED FOOD FOR CATTLE.

Having for some years turned my attention to the most economical and profitable mode of fattening cattle, and especially hogs, I have found that preparing their food by the process of boiling is unquestionably the greatest improvement that has yet been discovered — a slight fermentation following previously to feeding it away, as certainly adds to the capacity of food for affording nutrition. And I have also further fully ascertained, that the nutritive qualities of many species of food can *only* be obtained by boiling, and in many others is only fully developed, or prepared for the action of the stomach by that process.

The Irish potato furnishes a case in point of the first kind, and the apple of the last. It is extremely rare that you will find a hog that will eat a *raw* Irish potato, but put it through a culinary process, and it is rare to find one that will refuse them.

Boil the apples, let them get cold, and feed them to hogs, and you will double their capacity for producing flesh.

But, sir, the result of fairly conducted experiment has equally convinced me that the mixing of different kinds of food, adds prodigiously to the capacity of the different materials for affording nutrition, from the effect of combination. The increase of the quantity of food, as well as the addition to its nutritive quality, by the simple absorption of water in the act of boiling, is familiar to all well-informed persons. But I am assured that the combination of different materials produces a greater mass of nutritive matter, than the whole could separately yield; and that to find out the art of mixing food, along with the best mode of preparing it for the action of the stomach, is the great art of feeding economically, and I believe to secure animal flesh, health and vigor.

The late improved mode of keeping up in flesh working horses in England, by the admixture of food, may be cited as a corroborating proof in point. It is now, I think, rendered certain that the combination of two articles of food, produces a new nutritive matter, more effectual than either could separately, or that could be produced from the nutritive matter contained in each fed separately. Boil Irish potatoes, pumpkins and apples combine them by mashing together, and add a little salt, and it will be found most nutritive food for hogs, producing flesh rapidly. Now a hog fed on Irish potatoes raw, would starve to death, and do little better confined to pumpkins; on raw apples he would live tolerably, on the boiled and combined, he fattens kindly and rapidly.

The result with me has become an anxious desire to ascertain the simplest and most economical mode of steam boiling food on a large scale, say pumpkins, potatoes, &c. Some of your readers may have seen, or be in possession of some plan not generally known, and valuable.

I have no hesitation in saying, that the individual whose talents would devise some plan which would come within the reach of every description of planters, uniting economy in the expenditure of capital, with despatch, would confer a solid benefit on our country.

RECIPE.—It has been discovered, we learn from the New York Sun, that a man, or rather a *beast*, however drunk he may be, whether lying in the street, or any other place, may be almost instantly induced and enabled to get upon his feet, and to pursue his way home, if a home he have:—Fill his mouth as full as you can of *common salt*, though a quantity not larger than a good sized nutmeg will generally be sufficient, and he will soon jump up and become partially sober.

CULTURE OF SILK.

Throughout the range of nature there is not perhaps a more wonderful, a more mysterious phenomenon, than that which is presented in the natural history of the silk-worm. That an insect apparently so insignificant in the scale of animal creation — so destitute of every quality calculated to recommend itself to the eye of man — should be the producing cause of immense wealth, not only to individuals, but to whole nations — is a fact so many centuries old, that it has ceased to be regarded as marvellous. Yet it is marvellous — and the closer we look into the matter, the more astonishing are the results manifested. From the inscrutable toils of this petty mechanic, which seems to exist, and to labor, and to die, for the sole and exclusive benefit of the human race, are furnished the most splendid habiliments which bedeck royalty and nobility — the most useful and durable fabrics worn by the great mass of civilized society. An imperfect idea of the annual worth of these labors may be gathered from the consideration that in our own republic alone, the consumption of silk goods — the product of foreign worms — amounts yearly to *twelve millions of dollars.*

The time will come, unquestionably, when this fact, now so notorious, will seem more like fable — and when too, taking into view our undoubted resources and facilities, it will be placed among the severest reflections upon the character of the age. Ignorance of the subject must then constitute the only plea of those who would palliate the negligence hitherto prevailing. Or, if that excuse avail not, it must be said that a strange apathy — an unaccountable indifference — perhaps an unpardonable disregard of one of the highest and most important of our interests, has pressed upon the subject like an incubus, and prevented or prostrated every effort to arouse popular attention. Eager, and wide awake, as we proverbially are, in all matters involving prospects of profit, it must be confessed that in relation to the details connected with the growth and manufacture of this precious material, we have heretofore been — not slow and sure' — nor even 'slow and easy' — but, culpably tardy.

According to an authentic estimate of the value of silk goods imported into the United States, the average sum of one dollar for every individual population, is annually paid for articles which we ourselves are capable of drawing from the very earth — thus sending twelve millions of capital unnecessarily out of the country, to reward the industry and enrich the skill of other lands. The ingenious caterpillar to whom we are rendering this extravagant tribute, and the plant which constitutes its food, may be reared and made to thrive in our own territory and upon spots otherwise useless, and even comparatively barren—in every respect as advantageously as in the most favored climate of the old world.

Perhaps from the absence of practical information touching the minutiæ of this business—the common and erroneous impression that in the culture of the tree, and in the management of the insect, as well as in the manufacture of the filament, there is much troublesome intricacy — the latter notion a natural consequence of the former want of knowledge — these together have constituted probably the most formidable obstacles to the establishment and progress of this great branch of national industry. Involuntary ignorance may be

pardoned but a wilful determination to remain so in relation to a matter of such acknowledged importance — when every temptation to inquiry is presented and when that investigation requires so slight an effort — amounts, in our view, to absolute wickedness. The smallest possible measure of faith, exercised on this subject to a very limited extent, will lead to the developement of facts and to the discovery of results satisfactory to every candid mind, and truly astonishing to all who shall thoroughly pursue this inquiry.—*Nantucket Inq.*

FACTS AND OBSERVATIONS RELATIVE TO THE CULTURE OF SILK.

The following was furnished by a friend, acquainted with the Culture of Silk, and gives much valuable information in a concise form.

STAGES IN THE LIFE AND LABORS OF THE SILK WORM.

Sickness begins in eight days after hatching, when the worms will refuse food for three days. They will again feed five days. Sickness will be renewed again for three days, and feeding will continue again five days. The worm undergoes a third sickness for three days, and feeds five days as before, and becomes sick three days for the 4th time. Resumes its feeding for five days and casts its skin for the last time in the caterpillar state. The worm now devours its food voraciously for ten days and commences spinning.

The different periods in the progress of the life and labors of the insect may be expressed in a tabular form as follows:

8 days old,
3 days sick,
5 days feeding,
3 days sick,
5 days feeding,
3 days sick,
10 days feeding.
10 days spinning.

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ON THE CULTURE OF MULBERRY TREES, ETC.

In England and countries of a similar temperature, seedling mulberries will not attain a greater height than three inches in the first year. In warmer climates their growth is much more rapid; so that in some parts of India large quantities are sown whose crops are mowed down in the ensuing season as food for silk worms. Sprouts again spring forth from the roots the same year, and are used for a second brood. The silk produced from the worms fed on those tender shoots is supposed to be readily distinguishable by its superiority over that produced when the insect is fed on the leaf of the full grown mulberry tree.—*Dr Lardner.*

SUCCESSIVE CROPS OF MULBERRY TREES AND SILK WORMS.

Notwithstanding the possibility, in some climates and countries, to raise two or three crops of mulberry leaves and of silk worms in the same season, we doubt whether such attempts will be attended with beneficial results in any part of New England. Even in warmer climates than ours the best judges prefer single to successive crops in a season. Dr Lardner observes as follows:

"Count Dandola is of opinion that in Italy it is disadvantageous to obtain more than one crop in each season. He affirms that the mulberry tree cannot bear this constant stripping of its leaves without injury. 'All things considered,' says he, 'I am well persuaded that one of our good crops will be equal to any number that may be gathered elsewhere in a year.' It is observed that the quality of the silk obtained in Italy from their second *racolta* is always inferior to that from the first breed of worms.

"The Persian cultivators are accustomed, from a motive of economy to feed silk worms upon boughs of the mulberry tree, instead of using the leaf separately, as is practised in all temperate climates. The leaves continuing attached to the branches, remain longer fresh, have a better flavor and are more nutritious, than those separately gathered, and the silk worms fed from the branches with less waste than when the leaves are strewn singly over them.

"In some parts of Italy and France, mulberry leaves are commonly sold by weight, in the market, and those persons who rear silk worms are often wholly dependent on this source for a supply. Judgement and experience are required in the purchaser, to enable him to make a proper selection of leaves, choosing such as are of a nourishing quality, and rejecting those whose sale would, from their greater weight, be more profitable to the vender. The interests of the two parties are consequently at variance. In other places trees are hired for the season; from four to six francs, according to its size and condition, being paid for the hire of each tree. Under equal circumstances an old mulberry tree always yields better leaves than a young one; and whatever may be the original quality of the tree, as it grows older the leaf will diminish in size, and will so materially improve that at length it will attain to a very excellent quality."

From the Baltimore Farmer.

In our 35th number we gave an article communicating the fact of the formation of a company in Queen Ann's county, in this State, for the purpose of carrying on the silk culture, and expressing the undissembled pleasure we felt at the information, and it will be seen by the article appended to this, that some patriotic citizens of the adjoining county of *Caroline*, are about to form another company with a similar object in view. To *them* we say, as we said to the public spirited gentlemen of the first named county, may God speed your good work; for *good* must that work be, that sets an example, which, if followed, will add millions to the productions of the State, and increase the means of living to its people, to an amount more than equal to all their wants, necessary or artificial.

Whilst we rejoice in the fulness of our heart at these auspicious beginnings near home, we say to the citizens of every district in the country, where there are genial soils and sun — and where are they not — to emulate the example here set them; they need not fear a glutted market — the markets of America, England and France, are all open, and offer the richest rewards which the husbandman could desire to urge him forward in this generous enterprise: nor should the *present* demand for raw silk, be taken as any criterion of what it may, by time and circumstances be raised, to. As the means of production and the supply may be augmented, so will the demand be increased. As each year rolls around, new uses will be found for the commodity, until at last, it will be used in 7 hundred ways not at present thought of. Already have the ever inventive genius of our mechanics substituted it to considerable extent for fur in the fabrication of hats; and as civilization forces its way to the distant west, and as the forests fall beneath the unerring stroke of the axe-man, will the supply of fur become diminished, and the consequent increase of the use of silk in the manufacture of hats be promoted.

What are the facts connected with the history of the growing of cotton in the United States? Who, a quarter of a century ago would have believed that it would have attained one hundredth part of the present amount of product and consumption. The demand has regularly kept pace with the rate of production, and this has been done without any diminution of pound value. Indeed the whole range of incidents involved in the culture of this beautiful and necessary article, are as extraordinary as they are interesting and instructive. And we would here invoke all who may desire to do an especial favor to themselves and to their country, to take counsel by the successful results of the culture of cotton, and enter at once with energy and spirit into that of the more profitable commodity of silk.

SORTING COCOONS.—Before commencing the operation of reeling, the reeler should sort the cocoons and place them in separate parcels, according to their quality. The qualities of cocoons admit of five varieties, and are known by the names of double cocoons — the *chiques* or skins — the fine — the demi-fine, and the satin cocoons. The double cocoons are those in which two or three worms have worked and enclosed themselves. They are larger than the single ones. The *chiques* or skin cocoons are softer and resist much less to pressure — the fine cocoons are those of which the surface presents a very fine and very close grain — the demi-fine are of a more loose and larger grain — the satin cocoons are those of a still inferior quality. Though cocoons are not ordinarily so particularly sorted; yet when it is intended to reel silk of an extra nice fibre, it is desirable they should be.

Before reeling they should also be cleaned from the floss and loose threads with which they are enveloped. This is done by having them picked off by children.

In picking or flossing cocoons, care should be taken that all the floss be preserved, as it may be appropriated to many valuable purposes. Boiled in soap and water, and afterwards carded with common cotton cards, and spun on a common spinning wheel, it makes a good material for stockings, gloves, &c.

SILK CULTURE IN NEW JERSEY.—A number of gentlemen of Warren county, New Jersey, have given notice of their intention to apply to the Legislature of that State, for a charter of a Company, with a capital of $300,000, for the purpose of raising the mulberry and manufacturing silk, in that county. This is a very encouraging beginning and as the soil of New Jersey is peculiarly favorable for the growth of the tree and rearing of the worm there is little doubt of their being followed by other gentlemen equally spirited.

NEW WORK ON SILK.—The Editor of this paper has prepared a *Practical Treatise* on the CULTURE OF SILK adapted to the soil and climate of the United States. The work is illustrated by engravings, and contains over 100 pages. Price 50 cents.—*Silk Culturist.*

(For the New England Farmer.)

IRRIGATION.

By Hon. John W. Lincoln.

Mr Fessenden:—Sir, It was with deep regret that I read in the Albany "Cultivator," for January, the following editorial notice: "*Irrigation.* We have refrained from recommending this branch of improvement, because our climate does not require it, and because it is too expensive for our scale of husbandry. Irrigation is essential in southern climates, as Egypt, Italy, Spain, &c. where rain seldom falls in summer, and where the heat is great and unremitting. With us, drains are far more essential to take off the excess of water than to flood our lands. Systematic irrigation is very expensive, requiring the surface to be perfectly graduated, so that water may be completely taken off, as well as spread over the surface at pleasure."

I have regretted it, because I considered the statement founded in error, and having the sanction of that distinguished agriculturist, Judge Buel, I believed it was calculated to do much injury, inasmuch as it might prevent many farmers from using the means within their control of making much improvement on their land, which in many situations might be done at very inconsiderable expense. Having denied the orthodoxy of the opinions expressed in relation to irrigation by that skilful farmer, the principal editor of the "Cultivator," who possesses so much general agricultural information, and whose opinions have been found so uniformly correct, it will be expected that I should offer some strong reasons to justify my disbelief. Having assumed the burden of proof, I hope to adduce such testimony as will satisfy him that I have at least some foundation for my doubts, if I fail to convince him that he may, in this instance, be in an error.

I would first ask his attention to "*The English Improver, or a new survey of husbandry, discovering to the kingdome, that some land, both arrable and pasture, may be advanced double or treble; other land to a five or ten-fold; and some to a twenty-fold improvement; yea, some now not worth above one or two shillings per acre, be made thirty or forty, if not more; clearly demonstrated from principles of sound reason, ingenuity, and late but most certain reall experiences. Held forth under six pieces of Improvement, first, by floating or watering such lands as are capable thereof, &c. By* Walter Blith, *a lover of Ingenuity.*" *Printed in* 1640.

On page 22, he says: "but if either thy land be gravell, or of a sound, warm sandie, or mixed nature, and any whit descending, then any running streame will have a gallant operation. The warmer, lighter and sounder is the land, the greater is the advantage. These particulars discovered, out of question thou hast a wonderful advantage before thee, especially if thou hast any great length and quantity of land along the River, or by a great roade way side, or else hast any good land floods from great townes or cities, make as much of these advantages, and apprize them as thy lands, for though hereby thou canst make thy lands no more, yet thou mayst make them so much better, almost as thou canst desire.

"Suppose some man of great credit should say, Sir, you have two hundred acres in such a place, what if I should lay you a hundred more in the middest of them? He would wonder at it, yet because of the credit of him that spake it, he doth not wholly disdaine it, and if it could be done he deserved thanks for it, but he doth doe it really though not in kind, that advanceth or improves the land but one third part, that makes two acres as good as three, much more he that makes one as good as three, or five, or ten, as before this watering businesse be done, shall clearely appeare, and so I descend to the working out the same. I had forgot another sort of land, which is your boggy quagmiry land, no lesse capable of a mighty improvement, if it fall under the opportunity of floating.

"And so doe but a little consider of the way of both, fitting thy land to thy water, and thy water to thy land, with the truest, naturalest, and properest seasons for bringing it on and taking it off, and thou shall see an admired issue."

On page 27, he says: "For this seriously observe, that the water running trickling among the grasse and upon the earth, leaving her thickenesse, soyle, or filth, which I call richnesse, among the grasse, and upon the earth, and itself runneth away into the drayning trench, and troubles thee no more, and so the goodnesse of the water is as it were riddled, screened, and strained out into the lands, and the leanesse slideth away with it."

"The Experienced Farmer," by Richard Parkinson, in vol. ii. and page 63, says: "Upon the whole artificial watering of meadows is a most excellent improvement; it robs no dunghill, but raises one for the benefit of other lands. For if a farmer can water ten acres of land, cut the grass, and use it either in stall or fold feeding, he might keep perhaps forty beasts; and by working the manure made by them into a compost, and applying that compost to other lands, he might either have a great deal more hay for the winter, or feed more cattle in the summer."

In "The Complete Grazier," section 2d, on the different modes of improving land, and under the head of Irrigation, it is stated: "that water forming by far the greatest portion of the sap of plants, is absolutely necessary to vegetation; hence, although this fluid is very injurious to land when it soaks into, or stagnates upon it, yet it makes a very great improvement upon land, that is flooded with it, where there is plenty of running water that can be conveyed upon the land and drawn off thence at pleasure.

"The system of irrigation is carried on to the greatest extent in the counties of Wilts, Dorset, Hants, &c. and particularly in Gloucestershire, the farmers of which last mentioned county are thus enabled to commence the making of *cheese*, at least one month sooner than those of other districts, who have not the same opportunity. So highly, indeed, is water prized for this purpose in Gloucestershire, that the privilege of keeping up the water for turning corn mills, is regarded as a *grievance*; and those who have this privilege, obtain high rents for the temporary use of the water. In illustration of this circumstance it may be added, that on the river Churn, which is a branch of the Thames, there are ten corn mills erected on a stretch of five miles of the water's course, which yield annually four hundred pounds. Upon the same stretch there are one thousand acres of meadow, supposed to be improved by irrigation to *two pounds* per acre of yearly rent above their former value, although they are of necessity but imperfectly watered from the obstruction of the mills; thus producing a difference of *one thousand six hundred pounds* annual rent in the different mode of using the water!!!

"Further, not only are common meadows greatly enriched, and boggy lands reclaimed by the proper application of water as already hinted, but also its utility is yet more clearly evinced from this circumstance, that from the uncommon forwardness of the grass, the feeding between the months of March and May is worth one guinea an acre; in June one acre of water meadow will yield two tons of hay, which sells, at different times, from twentyfive shillings to five pounds per ton, according to the quality and quantity of the herbage, and the extent of the demand; and the eddish, or after-grass, may be valued at fifteen, if not twenty shillings an acre, whether the season be wet or dry.

"Upon the whole, it is evident that *irrigation* is not only a great improver of land, but is likewise capable of being carried on to the greatest extent in almost every situation, by seizing and making use of the various convenient situations afforded by nature, and by calling in the aid of machinery for conducting water into those situations where it would otherwise be impracticable to flood land."

In Davy's "Agricultural Chemistry," in lecture 7th, it is stated, that "Irrigation, or watering land, is a practice, which, at the first view, appears the reverse of torrefaction; and in general in nature the operation of water is to bring earthy substances into an extreme state of division. But in the artificial watering of meadows, the beneficial effects depend upon many different causes, some chemical, some mechanical.

Water is absolutely essential to vegetation, and when land has been covered by water in the winter, or in the beginning of spring, the moisture that has penetrated deep into the soil, and even the subsoil, becomes a source of nourishment to the roots of the plant in the summer, and prevents those bad effects that often happen in lands in their natural state, from a long continuance of dry weather.

"When the water used in irrigation has flowed over a calcareous country, it is generally found impregnated with carbonate of lime; and in this state it tends, in many instances, to ameliorate the soil.

"Common river water also generally contains a certain portion of organizable matter, which is much greater after rains, than at other times; and which exists in the largest quantity when the stream rises in a cultivated country.

"Even in cases when the water used for flooding is pure, and free from animal or vegetable substances, it acts by causing the more equable diffusion of nutritive matter existing in the land; and in very cold weather it preserves the tender roots and leaves of the grass from being affected by frost.

"Water is of greater specific gravity at 42 deg. Fahrenheit, than at 32 deg., the freezing point, and hence in a meadow irrigated in winter, the water immediately in contact with the grass is rarely below 40 deg., a degree of temperature not at all prejudicial to the living organs of plants.

"In 1804, in the month of March, I examined the temperature in a water meadow near Hungerford, in Berkshire, by a very delicate thermometer. The temperature of the air at seven in the morning was 29 deg. The water was frozen above the grass. The temperature of the soil

below the water in which the roots of the grass were fixed, was 43 deg.

"In general, those waters which breed the best fish are the best fitted for watering meadows; but most of the benefits of irrigation may be derived from any kind of water. It is, however, a general principle, that water containing ferruginous impregnations, though possessed of fertilizing effects, when applied to a calcareous soil, are injurious on soils that do not effervesce with acids; and that calcareous waters, which are known by the earthy deposit they afford when boiled, are of most use on silicious soils, or other soils containing no remarkable quantity of carbonate of lime."

I would now request the Hon. Judge to hear the testimony of the celebrated Sinclair, as may be found in the "Code of Agriculture," and as this article may fall into the hands of some farmers, who may not have that book at hand, I shall take the liberty to file as evidence in the case the whole of the seventh section of the third chapter on "Irrigation."

"Water is employed in various ways for the improvement of land. First, by the process of what is strictly called *irrigation*, when water is made to trickle over the surface. Second, by *flooding*, when it covers the soil completely for a period of time; and third, by *warping*, when the water merely acts as a conductor of the warp, or mud, by which the improvement is effected. We shall consider these several processes separately, beginning with irrigation.

"This subject embraces the following particulars:—The objects to which irrigation is applied; the methods of conducting the process; the circumstances necessary to be considered previous to the plan being undertaken; the water best calculated for that purpose; the proper soils and subsoils for irrigated meadows; the effects of climate on irrigation; the expense; the profit; the grasses best adapted for water meadows; the stock fed upon them; the making and preserving water meadow hay; the objections which have been urged against irrigation; the advantages attending it, and the improvement of which it is susceptible.

(To be continued.)

(From the Concord Freeman.)

TURF ASHES.

It is a very common impression among farmers, that the ashes made from a turf fire are good for nothing, and they are therefore thrown away, and what might aid in increasing that gold mine of the farmer, his *manure heap*, is thoughtlessly wasted. Now, sir, let me tell you my experience in this matter, with some little advice, and if those of your readers who may follow it, do not realize the truth of the old adage, 'a penny saved, is a penny got,' then I am willing that they should turn back to their old ways.

About ten years since I came to live on the place I now own. As there was but little wood attached to the homestead, I thought it would be a matter both of convenience and economy to supply myself with fuel chiefly from my meadow, which was near at hand, and which cut most excellent turf. Having always heard that the ashes was worthless, I should have thrown it away, but as I was one day digging about my trees, I thought I would throw a little of it round each, and covering it with earth from my hoe, I left it to work out its deed of good or evil. Well, I followed this system in my orchard the season through, and I must say that an orchard never throve better — so much was this the case, that I was well convinced it must be the effects of manure, and as nothing else had been brought on, I very easily concluded that some fertilizing properties did exist in turf ashes, prejudice to the contrary notwithstanding. From that time to this, every spring and fall when I have dug round my trees, I have strewn these ashes plentifully about each, and covered them with earth, that the wind should not blow them away — and I must say my faith in their virtue is stronger than ever. In one other way have I made use of them. At the first hoeing (or weeding) of my corn, I apply a handful or two to each hill as fast as I proceed with my rows, and while they nourish and strengthen the young plants, I believe it protects them from the *greyworm* — for I have never had my cornfield so free from that destructive insect, as since my use of these ashes.

As my experience has been spun out into quite a homily already, I shall close by advising my brother farmers who burn this article of fuel, *to test its efficacy as a manure.* If the result does not substantiate my positions, I will give up preaching on ECONOMY.

Lexington, Jan. 18, 1836.

CUT FODDER.—Cut or chaff your hay, straw, corn-tops or blades, and even your stalks with a straw cutter, and you will save a great portion which is otherwise wasted, or passed through the animal without contributing to its nourishment. One bushel of chaffed hay at a mess, given in a trough, three times in twentyfour hours, is sufficient for a horse, ox or cow. A bushel of chaffed hay, lightly pressed, weighs from 5 to 5 1-2 lbs. A horse, or a horned beast, thrives more on 15 lbs. thus given, than on 24 or 25 lbs. (including the waste) as commonly expended in the usual manner of feeding in racks; to which troughs, properly constructed, are far preferable.

Feeding your stock by weight and measure of food, will not only save your provender, by its orderly distribution, but frequently save lives of animals, too often starved by niggardliness, or gorged and injured by profusion. If it be true, as it is, that "the master's eye makes the horse fat," it is equally so that the master's eye prevents the horse from being pampered, bloated, foundered, and finally wind-broken and blind.—*Judge Peters.*

WONDERS FROM CULTIVATION.—There is scarcely a vegetable which we now cultivate, that can be found to grow naturally. Buffon has stated that our wheat is a factitious production, raised to its present condition by the art of agriculture. Rye, rice, barley, or even oats, are not to be found wild, that is to say, growing naturally in any part of the earth, but have been altered by the industry of mankind from plants not now resembling them, even in such a degree as to enable us to recognise their relations. The acrid and disagreeable *opium graveolens*, has been transferred into delicious celery, and the colewort, a plant of scanty leaves, not weighing altogether half an ounce, has been improved into cabbage, whose leaves weigh many pounds, or into a cauliflower of considerable dimensions, being only the embryo of a few buds, which in their natural state would not have weighed as many grains. The potato again, whose introduction has added many millions to our population, derives its origin from a small bitter root, which grows wild in Chili and Monte Video.

AGRICULTURE.—We presume that the business of Agriculture was never more profitable in New England than now. Our farmers are rapidly becoming rich, that is, those who are industrious and economical — and we know no class of citizens more deserving. The Claremont, N. H. Eagle gives the following instances of agricultural prosperity in the valley of the Connecticut:—

"Some of the best and most productive farms in the country may be found in the valley of the Connecticut. Their produce in the market always commands a high price. The amount of butter, beef and pork, sold since the 1st of October last, by the farmers of the single town of Barnet, Caledonia co., Vt. brought the sum of $26,340 88. During the four months mentioned, they sold 349 head of beef cattle for $5,745; 68,137 lbs. of butter for $12,876 11; and 123,571 lbs. of pork for $7,719. One farmer sold three thousand pounds of butter and the same of pork — 1,600 lbs. of the butter having been sold at an average of 30 cents per pound. The butter that was sold in Barnet in the month of October, averaged about a shilling per pound, while that carried to the Boston market, brought, during the same time, from 22 to 26 cents — which, one would think, ought to pay handsomely for the cost of transportation. Another of the Barnet farmers sold 836 lbs. of butter, made from nine cows, at thirty cents per pound, amounting to over two hundred and fiftysix dollars. Truly, the Barnet farmers have been living in fine clover during the past season. Several of them carried off premiums offered for the best butter by the Massachusetts Agricultural Society at their last exhibition — and one of them, the first premium of fifty dollars. We gather these facts from a statement in the last number of the Vermont Farmer."

LEECHES.—The Massachusetts Medical Society have endeavored to promote the propagation of foreign leeches in this country; it being deemed an object of great importance, that they may be more generally attainable in all parts of the country, and that they may be procured at a lower price, than those which are imported. They have therefore offered a premium of five hundred dollars, for the best sample, of not less than one thousand leeches from a foreign stock, bred in this Commonwealth, and have appointed a large committee to receive applications. We should suppose that so liberal an offer would be sufficient to induce persons, conveniently situated for making the experiment, to become competitors for the premium. If the experiment should succeed, the sale of the article might be a profitable source of income.—*Adv.*

WESTERN LAKES.—The depth of the water in some of the great lakes in the West, is represented by travellers as being very great. There are parts of Lake Superior, as well as Huron and Michigan, where the depth of the water is 150 fathoms. The deepest water in Lake Erie is about 35 fathoms. In Lake St. Clair the water is quite shoal, rarely exceeding four fathoms.

Mr Brooke, a traveller in Norway, says, that the milk everywhere grows richer, as you go north.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEB. 17, 1836.

DESTRUCTION TO CANKER WORMS.

Mr Fessenden—Dear Sir: The Canker-worms made their appearance on my apple trees the last season.—Some of the young trees had considerable many on them. Has there been any experiment made of washing the trees at any time in the Spring, for the purpose of destroying them? Would not a wash of potash, or soap and water, put on the body and branches in the Spring, or say just before the time of the young shewing themselves, destroy them in the egg state? Such wash would be beneficial to the trees — the labor of tarring the trees once per day is great. I shall be thankful if you, or any of your readers, can give any useful information on this subject. I am, with much respect, yours, &c.

William Keith.

West Roxbury, Feb. 8, 1836.

By the Editor.—Among the antidotes against canker-worms, recommended by writers and practical cultivators, we do not recollect to have seen any remedy exactly similar to that suggested above by Mr Keith. But the Rev. Mr Falconer, of England, one of the correspondents of the Bath Agricultural Society, in treating of soap suds as a manure and an antidote to insects, has the following observations.

"This mixture [soap suds] of an oil and an alkali has been more generally known than adopted as a remedy against insects which infest wall fruit trees. It will dislodge and destroy the insects which have already formed their nests and bred among the leaves. When used in the early part of the year, it seems to prevent the insects from settling upon them; but whether by rendering the surface of the leaf disagreeable to the animals, and thus repelling them, or by neutralizing the acid they deposit, and thus preventing the leaf from contracting into a form necessary for their reception, I cannot presume to determine. One of the modes by which this mixture indirectly contributes to the fertility of the ground, may be its destruction of the insects which prey upon the plants.

"It is also, I think, to be preferred to lime water,* or the wood ashes and lime which Mr Forsyth recommends for the destruction of insects. It is preferable to lime water and lime, because lime loses its causticity, and with that its efficacy, by exposure to air, and must consequently be frequently applied; and to the dredging of the leaves with the fine dust of wood ashes and lime, because the same effect is produced by the mixture without the same labor, and is obtained without expense."

The same writer directs to make use of a common garden pump for sprinkling trees with soap suds, and says, if the water of a washing cannot be had, a quantity of potash dissolved in water may be substituted. He declares that "the washing of the trees twice a week, for three or four weeks in the spring will be sufficient to secure them from the injuries of these insects." A long paper on the use of soap suds as a manure, is concluded as follows:—"On the whole, then, this must be considered as a valuable manure, as it can be obtained easily, at small expense, and in large quantities: and, when its nature is well understood, will probably be no less esteemed by the farmer than horse dung. To the gardener as well as to the farmer it is useful, mixed with mould, as a fertilizing compost; or when fluid may be applied to his fruit trees, as a wash fatal to the noxious brood of predatory insects."

The writer of the article above quoted, mentions no particular kind of insect which he says may be destroyed by soap suds, but says, "it will dislodge and destroy the insects which have already formed their nests and bred among the leaves." And if the sprinkling of the trees twice a week for three or four weeks in early spring with soap suds, or a weak solution of potash, will destroy canker-worms, caterpillars, &c the troublesome, expensive, and injurious process of tarring the trees might well be omitted. But we do not believe it would be advisable to depend on the wash or sprinkling alone, till repeated experiments had proved its efficacy. Still the mixture of soap or potash and water would, probably, be well applied merely on account of its properties as a manure. It might be well, by way of adding to the effect of the application to mix with suds, decoctions of elder and tobacco. Perhaps a little tar or turpentine thrown in with the above-mentioned ingredients would render the compound more efficacious. It would be somewhat expensive to shower with a garden engine soap suds, &c. over a large orchard of large apple trees, as advised above. But, we believe the expense of tarring would be greater, and the manure of the soap suds would give a balance much in favor of the latter.

*Some gardeners recommend the use of lime water, but it is not commonly employed, being found hurtful to the foliage. —*Agricultural Report of Scotland.*

MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Saturday, Feb. 13.

EXHIBITION OF FRUITS.

Pears.—From E. M. Richards, Dedham, the Echassarie, of Boston and vicinity; also the Winter Orange, or Orange d'Hiver — both are desirable pears for the season.

Apples.—From Robert Manning, Salem, Danvers Winter Sweet, or Epps's Winter Sweet.

From Mr John Clapp, Reading, Nonsuch, Danvers Winter Sweet, an apple called the Early Baldwin, but probably is Knighn's Spitzenburg, and one other kind, name unknown.

From J. P. Davis, Boston, Tallman's Winter Sweet, first rate.

From John Mackay, Boston, Mackay's Winter Sweet.

From E. Weston, Jr., apples from Attleborough, name unknown.

From E. M. Richards, Dedham, Pomme d'Appi, or Lady Apple — Gardner's Sweeting — Shop Apple — a sweet Apple, name unknown, from Medfield — Cogswell — Wine-Sap-Barn Apple — American Wine — Wells' Pippin — Detroit Apple — Nonesuch—Spice Apple — a wilding, and one other, name unknown.

Mr Downer exhibited Bezi Vaet Pears — Knighn's Spitzenberg, a fine Pippin, and Esopus Spitzenberg Apples.

The specimens of fruits exhibited this day were all very fine. For the Committee. B. V. French.

N. B.—Messrs Hovey exhibited at the last meeting a specimen of Isabella Grapes in a fine state of preservation. B. V. F.

FIRE WOOD.

See that your supply of fire wood is abundant; and well prepared for the fire. Nothing more deranges the operations of a correct cultivator than to be under the necessity of tackling his team, in summer, perhaps in the hurry of haying, or harvest, to draw a temporary and scanty supply of wood for cooking, &c. It is almost as necessary to provide wood in winter for summer's use, as it is to provide meat, vegetables, hay, &c. in summer and autumn for winter's use.

(For the New England Farmer.)

Plymouth, Feb. 12, 1836.

Mr Fessenden—Dear Sir: I was gratified to observe in the last Farmer some notice of the Pig-nose Apple, because it revived to my recollection a fruit which in my youthful days was held in great estimation. There was in my father's orchard, in the town of Barnstable, a productive tree, bearing the Pig-nose Apple, which was considered to be superior to any other winter apple known. Whether the tree is still in existence, and whether there are any others of the kind in the vicinity, I am not able to determine.

I am, with respect,
your humble servt., J. T.

(Communication.)

Mr Editor:—A few years since, I gave your readers a few hints, from experience, upon the depredations of Field Mice, in girdling the young peach trees, after great bodies of snow having laid long on the ground, as it does at the present time. My peach trees are all extinct from the same cause, and the two last inclement winters.—But thinking the vermin would feed on something, I was induced, this 15th day of February, 1836, to examine my young apple trees, by shoveling the snow from the roots; and found many of them completely girdled three inches from the surface of the ground. I mention this fact, that others may take the hint. Brookline.

(Communication.)

Mr Editor:—Upon reading a paragraph under the head of "Rail-roads in Winter," the query occurred to my mind, whether the steam, as it is let off in working the engine, might not be discharged upon the rails before the wheels, and thus free them from a coating of ice?

A Friend to Internal Improvements.

The Finale of the French War.—Rothschild has informed his correspondents in this country, that the Government of France had notified that of England that they were now ready to fulfil all the conditions of the treaty of July 4th, 1831, without farther delay. The letters were received by the St Andrew.—*Journal of Commerce.*

The New York Commercial Advertiser, of Saturday evening, (13th) in a postscript, dated at half past 3 o'clock, says, that it was reported that a special government messenger arrived in the St Andrew, and proceeded forthwith to the seat of government.

Great Calf.—Mr Elisha M. Jencks, of Ware House Point, Conn. has a Heifer Calf, which is presumed to be the largest that can be produced in this country, according to its age. Is of deep red — calved May 1, 1834, from blood stock — weighed, when 7 months old, 800 lbs. — 10 months, 950 lbs. — 12 months, 1065, and 20 months, 1345 lbs. — from a cow formerly owned by the late Samuel Slater, Esq. Providence, R. I., and she from an imported cow, and without any extra keeping.

The Weather.—During three days of the past week, the weather was extremely cold. On Thursday morning, the mercury fell to *thirtythree* degrees below zero. Some of our western friends thought that *ten* degrees below were worthy of note, and spoke of it as something very uncommon. They ought to come down into this region, where, once or twice in the season, we require a thermometer of more than the usual length. Last winter, the mercury congealed here and at Houlton —*Bangorean.*

Major Nathaniel Mowry, of Smithfield, R. I. raised on an acre of ground, the past season, 102 bushels of corn.

BRIGHTON MARKET,—Monday, Feb. 15, 1836.

Reported for the Daily Advertiser & Patriot.

At Market 435 Beef Cattle, and 350 Sheep.

Prices—*Beef Cattle*—No material change in prices for a like quality from last week. We noticed a few yokes extra taken at 40s 6d and one yoke at something more. We quote first quality at 33s a 39s; second quality at 31s 6d a 34 6d; third quality 24s a 28s 6d.

Sheep—All at market were of an ordinary quality for the season. We noticed the sale of one lot only, of about 100, taken at 16s 9d.

Swine—None at market.

25,000 WHITE MULBERRY TREES.

The Subscriber will engage, if applied for soon, a part or whole of the above number of White Mulberry Trees, very thrifty and in good order, to be delivered in the spring.

N. B. On hand, White Mulberry Seed.

Feb. 3 G. C. BARRETT.

TO BE LET.

A Farm, situated in Medford, now occupied by Mr Noah Johnson, containing about 220 Acres of Land, in a high state of cultivation; the buildings are commodious and in good repair. It has the advantage of the Boston and Lowell Rail Road, and the Middlesex Canal running through it, and is bounded on Mystic River, which afford great facilities for transporting manure, &c. Possession given 1st of April next.

Also—A Tan Yard in Charlestown, near Mystic River and occupied by the subscribers containing 1000 Vats, with all the necessary buildings and machinery for carrying on the tanning business extensively. Connected with the yard is a water power sufficient for grinding 2000 Cords Bark per year, milling hides, smoothing leather, pumping, &c. Also, a large and very convenient wharf for landing bark and wood. Possession given immediately. For further particulars inquire of

GILBERT TUFTS, or
JOSEPH F. TUFTS, at the Yard.

Charlestown, Jan. 27, 1836. tf.

SITUATION WANTED AS GARDENER.

A steady, active, married man is in want of a situation as a Gardener. He is conversant in every department of the business, and is also acquainted with the management of a vegetable farm; unders ands taking care of Cows, Horses, &c., has lived in some of the most respectable places in Massachusetts and can produce the highest recommendations from his former employers. Any communication directed to the care of J. D. Williams, Roxbury, or at this office, will receive immediate attention. Feb. 17.

WANTED TO HIRE.

A Farm of about 100 acres suitable for tillage, pasturage, &c., is wanted for a term of years — to be situated within 50 miles from Boston. Apply at this office.

Feb. 17. 3t

WANTED,

Two or three hands at the Horticultural Gardens in Lancaster. 2t Feb. 17.

VALUABLE NEW WORK ON SILK.

American Silk Grower's Guide, is this day published at the office of the New England Farmer—being the art of growing the Mulberry and manufacture of Silk on the system of successive crops each season—by Wm. Kenrick, author of the New American Orchardist; 112 pp. price 42 cents, neatly bound in cloth. Booksellers and traders supplied on favorable terms. Feb. 17 GEO. C. BARRETT.

WANTS A SITUATION AS GARDENER.

A young man who is acquainted with pine growing, grapes, framing, and gardening in all its branches. The adverteser is skilled in botony, *qui nescit absteneat* and acted in some of the best places in the British Empire and has also a knowledge of nursery business, so much so that he trusts he would give satisfaction.

Any application made to J. B. at the office of this paper will be respectfully attended to. 3t

FARM TO LET.

To be let or leased, for Farming purposes, all the unoccupied Lands at East Boston, belonging to the Company—consisting of more than five hundred acres of excellent Upland and Salt Marsh.

The Upland is capable of producing large quantities of hay and pasturing many cattle.

For a milk farm, it is probable superior to any in the vicinity of Boston; the occupant will have the preference of supplying the Maverick House with milk and cream, which will go far towards paying the rent of the Farm. The Farm, House and Barns are in good order, and there is an abundance of sea manure around the Island.

Apply at the Land Office of the East Boston Company, or near the Maverick House.

WM. FETTYPLACE,
Feb. 10. 4t Superintendent.

Seeds for 1836.

FOR sale a the Seed Store connected with the N. E Farmer Office

200 bushels finest Early Peas;
200 " Large Marrowfat do;
50 " Dwarf Blue Imperial do.;
50 " other varieties;
100 " Best Garden Beans;
" Dwarf and Pole, Early and Late, do;
500 lbs. superior Long Blood Beet Seed;
100 " Early Turnip " " "
300 " Cabbage Seed, 14 different kinds;
250 " Fine Long Orange Carrot;
50 " Early Horn, do.;
200 " Common Cucumber;
150 " Long Green, do.;
100 " Early and Head Lettuces;
50 " Pure White Portugal Onion;
500 " Silver Skin "
1000 " Large Deep Red, "
200 " Large Dutch Parsnip;
150 " Early Scarlet Short Top Radish;
100 " Long Salmon;
50 " Turnip Radishes;
50 " Spinach;
100 " Early Scollop Squash;
100 " " Long "
100 " Long Winter, do;
25 " Salsafy;
100 " Early White Dutch Turnip;
500 " English
200 " Ruta Baga,
200 " Mangel Wurtzel *for Cattle.*

Also—Cauliflower; Broccoli; Celery; Cress; Egg Plants Leek; Endive; Musk and Water Melons; Martynea; Pepper; Parsley and Tomato Seeds by the lb. or oz. *Herb Seeds*, of all kinds.

50,000 Papers in 200 to 300 splendid kinds of *Annual, Biennial* and *Perennial* Flower Seeds.

Grass Seeds, *Wholesale & Retail.*

The above comprises in part the stock of seeds raised expressly for the establishment, and the quality and goodness will be *warranted* superior to any ever offered heretofore. Dealers and others will please file in their orders immediately, and they shall be faithfully executed for the spring.

Boxes of Garden Seeds for the country trade, neatly papered up, with directions on each paper, for sale at a large discount from Market prices.

Fruit & Ornamental Trees, &c. will be supplied in the spring, and orders are solicited.

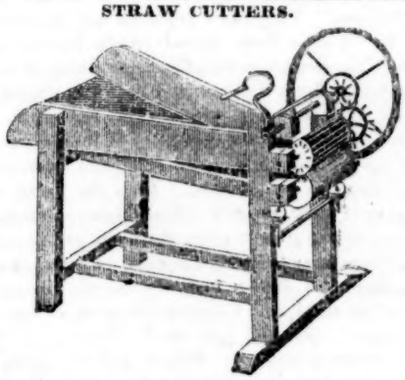
GEO. C. BARRETT, *Agricultural Warehouse.*

A SMALL PLACE WANTED,

Not less than five or over forty miles from the city of Boston, about ten acres good land, the soil a substratum of sand in preference to clay, with a small house in good repair and well finished, a small barn and out buildings in good order, within fifteen or twenty minutes walk of the centre of a well settled and thriving village.

Any person who has a place of the above description to dispose of cheep, will please to address by mail V. X. Newburyport, with a minuate description of buildings, soil, situation and price. 3t Feb. 10, 1836.

STRAW CUTTERS.



For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse No. 51 & 52, North Market Street.

Willis' improved Straw Cutter, Green's, Eastman's do. Safford's do. Stowell's, do. Dutch hand.

The advantage of cutting food for horses, cattle or even for cows, is of great importance, as there is a saving of at least 25 per cent of the fodder, and the animals are kept in much better order. J. R. NEWHALL.

WANTS A SITUATION.

A married man with no family, wants a situation as Gardener. He can give good recommendations as to his capacity, &c.; understands the management of every thing pertaining to Green House Culture. Application made at this office will be promptly attended to. 3t. Jan. 27

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE.

CORRECTED WITH GREAT CARE, WEEKLY.

		From	To
Apples, Russetts and Baldwins.	barrel	1 50	2 25
Beans, white,	bushel	1 75	2 00
Beef, mess,	barrel	10 50	11 00
Cargo, No. 1.	"	8 50	9 00
prime,	"	7 00	7 25
Beeswax, (American)	pound	25	27
Butter store, No. 1,	"	18	21
Cheese, new milk,	"	8	9
Feathers, northern, geese,	"	46	50
southern, geese,	"	42	45
Flax, American,	"	9	10
Fish, Cod,	quintal	2 75	2 83
Flour, Genesee, cash	barrel	8 00	8 12
Baltimore, Howard street,	"	7 50	7 62
Baltimore, wharf,	"	7 25	7 37
Alexandria,	"	7 37	7 50
Grain, Corn, northern yellow	bushel	92	95
southern flat yellow	"	81	84
white,	"	78	80
Rye, northern,	"	1 05	1 06
Barley,	"	90	1 00
Oats, northern, (prime)	"	65	67
Hay, best English, per ton of 2000 lbs		22 00	25 00
eastern screwed,	"	21 00	23 00
hard pressed,	"	21 00	23 00
Honey,	gallon		
Hops, 1st quality	pound	13	14
2d quality	"	10	12
Lard, Boston, 1st sort,	"	12	13
southern, 1st sort,	"	11	12
Leather, slaughter, sole,	"	19	20
do. upper,	"	12	14
dry hide, sole,	"	19	21
do. upper,	"	18	20
Philadelphia, sole,	"	27	29
Baltimore, sole,	"	25	27
Lime, best sort,	cask	1 20	1 25
Plaster Paris, per ton of 2200 lbs.		3 12	3 37
Pork, Mass. inspect. extra clear,	barrel	22 00	23 00
Navy, mess	"		
bone, middlings, scarce,	"		
Seeds, Herd's Grass,	bushel		
Red Top,	"	75	90
Red Clover, northern,	pound	10	11
Silk Cocoons, (American)	bushel		
Tallow, tried,	cwt.	8 50	9 00
Wool, prime, or Saxony Fleeces,	pound	65	75
American, full blood, washed,	"	55	65
do. 3-4ths do.	"	55	58
do. 1-2 do.	"		50
do. 1-4 and common	"	40	45
Native washed	"	38	60
Northern pulled. Pulled superfine,	"	58	60
1st Lambs,	"	50	53
2d do.	"	40	41
3d do,	"	30	35
1st Spinning,	"	48	50
Southern pulled wool is generally 5 cts. less per lb.			

PROVISION MARKET.

RETAIL PRICES.

Hams, northern,	pound	12	14
southern, and western,	"	11	12
Pork, whole hogs,	"	8	9
Poultry,	"	11	15
Butter, (tub)	"	18	20
lump	"	22	25
Eggs,	dozen	20	25
Potatoes,	bushel	30	50
Cider,	barrel	1 75	2 00

TEAZLE SEED.

Just received 50 lbs. prime Teazle Seed. The importance of this crop merits the attention of agriculturists.

Dec. 16. G. C. BARRETT.

WANTED A SITUATION

As Gardener, a steady, active man, who is conversant with every department of the business, and has lived for some years in some of the most respectable places in Massachusetts, and will be highly recommended by his former employers. Any commands directed to T. L. G., care of Mr P. Mooney, Book Store, Federal Street, will be respectfully attended to. January 5th, 1836.

FARM TO LET IN MEDFORD

About 5 miles from Boston; containing 40 acres of excellent Land, well adapted to mowing, tillage and pasturage. Said farm has been heretofore improved as a milk farm.

Apply to Luther Angier, near Medford Bridge.

N. B. Adjoining the above farm is about the same number acres, of similar land, which may be had on application to

NATHAN ADAMS, Esq.

Medford, Nov. 26, 1835. tf

MISCELLANY.

ON THE DEATH OF THE ETTRICK SHEPHERD.

BY WORDSWORTH.

When first, descending from the moorlands,
I saw the stream of Yarrow glide
Along a bare and open valley,
The Ettrick Shepherd was my guide.

When last along its banks I wandered,
Thro' groves that had begun to shed
Their golden leaves upon the pathways,
My steps the Border Minstrel led.

The mighty minstrel breathes no longer,
'Mid mouldering ruins low he lies;
And death upon the braes of Yarrow
Has closed the Shepherd-Poet's eyes.

Nor has the rolling year twice measured,
From sign to sign his steadfast course,
Since every mortal power of Coleridge
Was frozen at its marvellous source.

The rapt one, of the Godlike forehead,
The heaven-eyed creature, sleeps in earth;
And Lamb, the frolic and the gentle,
Has vanished from his lonely hearth.

Like clouds that rake the mountain summits,
Or waves that own no curbing hand,
How fast has brother followed brother
From sunshine to the sunless land!

Yet I, whose lids, from infant slumbers
Were earlier raised, remain to hear
A timid voice that asks in whispers,
"Who next will drop and disappear?"

Our haughty life is crowned with darkness,
Like London with its own black wreath,
On which, with thee, O Crabbe, forthlooking
I gazed from Hempstead's breezy heath;

As if but yesterday departed,
Thou, too, art gone before; yet why
For ripe fruit seasonably gathered
Should frail survivors heave a sigh?

No more of old romantic sorrows
For slaughtered youth and love-lorn maid;
With sharper grief is Yarrow smitten,
And Ettrick mourns with her their Shepherd dead!

Rydal-Mount, Nov. 30, 1835.

A PINDARIC STORY.

An Indian once, who *wore* a Christian name,
And many a Christian truth had brought him,
Would often get (it was a piteous shame)
Drunk as the magistrate who taught him;
Who was a lawyer bold—and on a time,
Hearing that Wango had drank grog on Sunday,
He sent for him straightway on Monday,
To come and make atonement for his crime.
"Wretch!" did Lycurgus fiercely say,
"The church demands a *dollar* for your peace."
"Well," sighed the culprit, "I will pay—
But give me a *citifficat* if you please."
"Certificate!" the lawyer sternly said;
"What will the fool do with the paper?'
Poor Wango scratch'd his oily head,
And bowing, said, "Life 's one poor vapor;
And when I die and to my rest would go,
Maybe Saint Peter tell me, 'No—
Such fell like you away from here I send 'em,
You broke 'em Sunday once before you die?'
'Ah but,' says I,
'I gib a *dollar* too, and so I mend 'em.'
'Did you,' he say, 'where your *citificat?*'
'La,' say I, 'massa Lawyer never write 'em;'
'Why, den, you fool,' he tell me, 'hole you prate,
——'Go back and get 'em,'
Mad like Ole Harry down again I come,
I find you dead, (now only see what trouble!)
I look for you, and 'fore I find you home,
I got for go quite to de *Debble!*

TIME'S SOLILOQUY.—Old call you me? Ay! when the Almighty spoke creation into birth, I was there. Then was I born. Mid the bloom and verdure of Paradise, I gazed upon the young world, radiant with celestial smiles. I rose upon the pinions of the first morn, and caught the sweet dewdrops as they fell, and sparkled on the bowers of the garden. Ere the foot of man was heard sounding in this wilderness, I gazed out upon its thousand rivers flashing in light, and reflecting the broad sun, like a thousand jewels upon their bosoms. The cataracts sent up their anthems, in these solitudes, and none was here to listen to the new-born melody but I! The fawns bounded over the hills, and drank at the limped streams, ages before an arm was raised to injure or make them afraid. For thousands of years the morning star rose in beauty upon these unpeopled shores, and its twin-sister of the eve flamed in the forehead of the sky, with no eye to admire their rays but mine. Ay! call me old!—Babylon and Assyria, Palmyra and Thebes, rose, flourished and fell, and I beheld them in their glory and their decline. Scarce a melancholy ruin marks the place of their existence; but when their first stones were laid in the earth, I was there! Mid all their splendor, glory, and wickedness, I was in their busy streets, and crumbling their magnificent piles and their gorgeous palaces to the earth.

My books will show a long and fearful account against them. I control the fate of empires, — I give them their period of glory and splendor: but at their birth I conceal in them the seeds of death and decay. They must go down and be humbled in the dust — their proud heads bowed down before the rising glories of young nations, to whose prosperity there will come a date and day of decline. I poise my wings over the earth, and watch the course and doings of its inhabitants. I call up the violets from the hills, and crumble the gray ruins to the ground. I am the agent of a Higher Power, to give life and take it away. I spread silken tresses upon the brow of the young, and place gray hairs on the head of the aged man. Dimples and smiles lurk around the lips of the innocent child, and I furrow the brow of age with wrinkles. Old call you me? When will Time end, Eternity begin? When will the earth and its waters, and the universe, be rolled up, and a new world commence its revolutions? Not till He, who first bid me begin my flight so orders it. When His purposes who first brought me into being are accomplished, then, and not till then, — and no one can proclaim the hour, — I too shall go to the place of all living.

The more we sink into the infirmities of age, the nearer we are to immortal youth. In the next world (the poets tell us) there is nothing but youth and spring.

He that charges an enemy does not show himself more brave, than he who bears up against severe disease.

No trees bear fruit in autumn, unless they blossom in the spring.

In all disputes between power and liberty, power must be proved; the presumption is on the side of liberty.

FINE EARLY PEAS.

Earliest Dwarf Peas—the earliest variety of Peas, grown from 20 to 24 inches high—consequently require no sticks.
Early Washington Peas; a very *productive* early variety.
" Charlton " Early Golden Hotspur, do.;
Bishop's Early Dwarf, do.; very Dwarf and early.
ALSO—Dwarf Scymetar Peas—A new variety from Scotland; this Pea will be found a great acquisition for a very productive and delicious *late* sort.
Dwarf Blue Imperial Pea;
Large Dwarf Marrowfat, do.; &c. &c.
All the above were raised expressly for the NEW ENGLAND SEED STORE, Nos. 51 & 52, North Market Street.

SPLENDID FLOWER BULBS FOR WINTER.

WILL BLOOM IN THE HOUSE.

HYACINTHS—
Boquet Tendre,
Groot Voorst,
Parquin,
Grand Monarche,
Orondates,
Voltaire,
Temple of Apollo,
Lord Wellington,
Madam Zoutman,
Madam Van Murkeys,
Gloria Florum,
L'Ami Du Cœur,
Pyramides des Roses.
200 Assorted Double.
200 Assorted Single, &c. &c.

Amaryllis (*most splendid flower.*)
Gladiolus Psciticinna.
Polyanthus Narcissus.
Crocus.
Double Jonquills.
Single do.
Crown Imperial (*of varieties.*)
Frittellera.
Colchicum.
Cyclamens.
Tulips, (assorted,) &c. &c.
ALSO—A large collection of splendid varieties of FLOWER SEEDS.

It being late in the season, and having a very large collection on hand, the above will be sold unusually low.
GEO. C. BARRETT.

PLASTER.

Calcined Plaster for Stucco Work, Ground Plaster for manuring lands, in barrels and casks, from the Lubec Mills, constantly for sale by GEO. CLARK & CO. T Wharf.
Feb. 10, 1836. 3m

GARDEN SEEDS AT $1 PER BOX.

Small Boxes Garden Seeds, containing a good assortment for a very small garden, for sale at $1 per box.
ALSO — A very large assortment of Garden and Flower Seeds, raised in gardens connected with the Agricultural Warehouse, &c. now ready for sale and orders promptly executed.
GEO. C. BARRETT,
Jan. 27. New England Seed Store.

WHITE DUTCH CLOVER.

600 lbs. very fine White Dutch Clover, (free from foul seed) just received from Holland, and for sale by GEO. C. BARRETT. Feb. 3.

THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER

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☞ No paper will be sent to a distance without payment being made in advance.

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